

REMARKS

The present invention is a method of classifying Internet Protocol (IP) data to be sent from a source apparatus to a destination apparatus in a packet switched network, and a router for use in a packet switched network transmission of IP data to be sent from a source apparatus to a destination apparatus. In accordance with embodiments of the invention, a method of classifying Internet Protocol (IP) data to be sent from a source apparatus 10 to a destination apparatus 40 in a packet switched network 100 includes receiving the IP data at a first node, the data comprising an header comprising a list of at least one intermediate node to be visited as discussed at the bottom of page 4 and the top of page 5 of the specification on a way to the destination apparatus; and classifying the data at the first node based on an entry in the header. See Figs. 4 and 5 where a list of addresses of visited nodes is set forth.

Claims 1, 13 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by United States Patent 6,674,760 (Walrand et al.).

Claims 1, 5, 13, 17, 25 and 30 have been substantively amended to recite receiving data at a first node, the data comprising a header comprising a list of at least one intermediate node to be visited on a way to the destination apparatus and classifying the data at the first node based upon an entry in the header. This subject matter has no counterpart in Walrand.

The referenced portions of Walrand to which the Examiner refers to in section 4 of the Office Action do not teach the aforementioned subject matter. Instead, Walrand teaches that classification of a packet is based upon the IP destination

address, the IP source address and a class of service identifier as stated in column 2, lines 34-36.

Moreover, the dependent claims 8-12, 20-24 and 33-37 define more specific aspects of the present invention which are not anticipated by Walrand.

Claims 2-4, 14-16, 26-28 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Walrand in view of United States Patent 6,452,915 (Jorgensen). These grounds of rejection are traversed for the following reasons.

Jorgensen has been cited as teaching an IP network layer which may be IPv4 or 6. However, Jorgensen does not cure the deficiencies noted above with respect to Walrand.

Claims 5-7, 17-19 and 30-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Walrand in view of Jorgensen further in view of United States Patent 6,157,955 (Narad). Narad has been cited as teaching IP options such as LSRR and SSRR. However, Narad does not cure the deficiencies as noted above with respect to Walrand and Jorgensen.

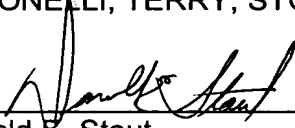
In summary, the claims have been amended to avoid the interpretation of Walrand utilized by the Examiner in the final rejection. Accordingly, it is submitted that each of the claims is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the

filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135
(0172.39657X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

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